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Stanford Financial Group invests in Green Business Partnership

An investment company that usually puts green into their clients' portfolios has joined Sarasota County's Green Business Partnership of environmentally friendly businesses. The Stanford Financial Group is a privately held global network of independent, affiliated financial services companies. The local branch is located at 444 Gulf of Mexico Drive, Suite 1010, Longboat Key.

Chairman Allen Stanford launched "Go Green" in January 2008, a company-wide global initiative to establish baselines on Stanford's current consumption of energy, resources and business activities so that future improvements can be measured.

"It was important to us that we not only focused on going green within our own office, but with our clients as well," says Stanford Group Company Managing Director Chuck Vollmer. "Many clients view their accounts online, eliminating monthly paper statements. We also developed a system that consolidates mailings for multiple accounts into one mailing, saving many thousands of sheets of paper a year."

The company has instituted a comprehensive recycling program, met with their landlord to address lighting and landscaping issues, and undertaken measures to reduce energy usage impacts, including the purchase of "green" power, according to Sarasota County Recycling Coordinator Tom Franklin,

The company has also streamlined water use, electricity and waste management by following Green Business Partnership guidelines. "We're proud of our success and continue to seek ways to do our part to make the world a greener place," Vollmer said

The Green Business Partnership was initiated under a Florida Department of Environmental Protection grant and is open to all businesses in Sarasota County that implement required resource conservation measures and pass an on-site certification assessment. Each certified business receives a Green Business Partnership certificate and seal they can display to demonstrate their commitment to a healthy environment. They also receive an electronic logo that can be used on company stationary and promotional items.

Stanford Financial Group is now listed in a Green Business Partnership directory that's available online at the Green Business Web site, www.scgov.net/greenbusiness.

The Green Business Partnership is actively seeking other participants. For more information, or to request a Green Business Partnership packet, contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000.

For more information on the businesses currently certified under the program, visit www.scgov.net/greenbusiness and click on the link entitled, "Participating Businesses."